



Envision Arlington Standing Committee

Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Time: 7:15–8:45 p.m.

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

Attendees: Alex Bagnall, Johanna Meyer, Caroline Murray, Juli Brazile, Lenard Diggins (non-member), Jagat Adhiya, Michael Brownstein

Minutes

Key Points Discussed:

1. **Minutes and Transcripts:** Acknowledged delay in posting the last meeting's minutes due to a technical glitch; efforts underway to transcribe the saved recording.
2. **Survey and Communication:**
 - Discussed enhancing town survey participation, with Johanna Meyer reporting on current response rates and strategies for boosting engagement.
 - Aim to double last year's survey responses of 1,700, with Precinct 12 showing promising engagement.
3. **Water Bodies Appropriation:** Approval of funding for the Water Bodies Fund for management and remediation efforts, including water quality and algae treatments.
4. **Financial Review and Planning:**
 - Highlighted the importance of fiscal planning for town committees.
 - Approximately \$8,000 available for committee use; discussions on potential projects and spending before the fiscal year-end.
5. **Future Meetings and Agenda Planning:**
 - Focus on survey progress, minutes approval, and new business.
 - Plans to support the League of Women Voters event and candidate night to boost voter engagement.
6. **Engagement and Promotion:**
 - Suggestions to celebrate task group successes and promote community events.
 - Consideration of 2024 engagement goals including civic learning sessions, youth engagement, and cultural festivals.

Actions Agreed Upon:

1. **Transcription and Approval:** Continue efforts to transcribe the last meeting's recording for minutes approval.

2. **Survey Distribution:** Increase efforts to distribute the town survey, with a focus on churches, Facebook groups, and direct emails. Track responses via a shared spreadsheet.
3. **Financial and Event Planning:**
 - Put the water bodies appropriation request on the warrant.
 - Authorize expenses for upcoming election events and support the League of Women Voters as feasible.
4. **Engagement Strategies:**
 - Create a Google Doc for brainstorming future projects.
 - Arrange a meeting with town officials to discuss the survey project's future and group's role.

Next Steps:

- **Survey Follow-Up:** Update on distribution efforts and explore additional promotion channels.
- **Future Meeting Preparation:** Review survey progress, approve minutes, and discuss new business for March 20th meeting.
- **Engagement and Promotion:** Finalize engagement goals and event preparations, including operational support for the League of Women Voters and candidate night planning.

Closing Remarks:

The meeting concluded with a commitment to community involvement, transparency, and preparation for future engagements, underscoring the importance of technological updates, community engagement through surveys, and effective communication strategies for upcoming town events.

Next Meeting: March 20th @ 7:15-8:45 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 p.m.